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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 27 | Min 21 | Humidity 70% Mostly Cloudy Sensex 80,604 | Nifty 24,530 | Gold 73,016 | Silver 89,675 | Dollar 83.69 | Euro 91.06 | GBP 108.07

COOL CLIME

City experiences one of its coldest days on Friday with a daytime temperature of just 23.8 degrees C

PAGE 2

RIDE THE WAVE

Meet Bengaluru's own synthwave sensation Tron 1982 who are poised to take us on an auditory time capsule

PAGE 6

Bengaluru police are undergoing training on animal cruelty rules and welfare. In syllabus: Laws, landmark judgments, psychology, jurisdictional clarification, breeding rules and much more

A CLASS IN COMPASSION

Sessions conducted at 5 police stations and ongoing at 2

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To tackle the growing incidents of animal cruelty cases, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has started comprehensive training sessions for Bengaluru police on animal cruelty rules and welfare.

The Animal Husbandry Department of the civic agency is conducting these sessions in association with a city-based NGO after concerns were raised about the lack of awareness of animal cruelty laws among police personnel.

So far, training sessions have been conducted at five police stations in the city – JP Nagar police station, Konanakunte police station, Kumaraswamy Layout, Girinagar station, and Subramanyapura police station – and are ongoing at Parappana Agrahara and Talghatpura police stations.

Police officials are being made aware of laws related to animal cruelty, landmark judgments by the Supreme Court and High Courts on the issue, the psychology of animal crimes, animal welfare setup,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 »

"During these sessions, we also inform them that there is a need for the police to protect animals. Animal-related laws have existed for nearly 64 years, and it is time we recognise them

— Sadhana Hegde, founder of Sahavarthin Animal Welfare Trust

Taxing time for institutes

BBMP demands schools, colleges pay property tax, settle arrears under OTS scheme

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The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and educational institutions are at loggerheads once again. The civic agency is demanding that schools and colleges pay 100% property tax and settle arrears under the One Time Settlement (OTS) scheme. However, the educational institutions argue that this demand violates a High Court order and that the civic agency cannot enforce such payments.

On July 19, the BBMP issued notices to schools informing them that the OTS scheme launched by the civic agency would expire on July 31, 2024. Consequently, the BBMP Chief Commissioner urged educational institutions to take advantage of the OTS to settle their property tax arrears.

Shashi Kumar D, the General Secretary of KAMS and Convenor of the Karnataka Private School Managements, Teaching & Non-Teaching Staff Coordination Committee (KPMTCC), has alleged, "The BBMP is forcing us to pay 100% taxes, which is a violation of court rules. This is contempt of court. Despite educational institutions being exempt from paying property tax in our state, we have

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

2 THINGS TO DO

01 A tribute to all gurus

Natanam Institute of Dance presents "Guru Vandanam," a Bharatanatyam dance programme led by the esteemed Acharya Dr Raksha Karthik and her disciples, to celebrate the auspicious occasion of Guru Poornima. The event is an homage to the revered Gurus. This traditional dance performance promises to be a mesmerising evening, reflecting this classical dance's rich cultural heritage and spiritual depth.
Where: Sanatana Kalakshetra, Jayanagar, 4th Block; When: July 21, 6 pm

02 Tote bag painting

Unleash your creativity and bring your artistic vision to life on a tote bag with an engaging 'Tote Bag Painting Workshop.' Whether you're looking to learn a new craft or simply spend a relaxing afternoon painting, join in, express your creativity, and design your own unique, eco-friendly tote bag. **Where: Small World, Koramangala; When: July 21 onwards**

Employment seminar

The Directorate General of Resettlement (DGR) and the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) jointly hosted an employment seminar for retired and retiring defence personnel on Friday at Air Force Station Jalahalli. The event was conducted under the patronage of the Ministry of Defence, Government of India. The seminar was inaugurated by Dr Niten Chandra, IAS, Secretary, ESW. The purpose of the event was to offer various opportunities as a second career choice for experienced and skilled defence veterans. It attracted participation from approximately 1,400 veterans and 50 corporate entities. Among the attendees, 812 were selected for further rounds of interviews. These veterans are set to be employed in positions spanning from senior supervisors and mid/senior-level managers to strategic planners and project directors, allowing them to utilise their expertise effectively. — BMB

Underwater paradise

Children and adults alike were in awe of this aquatic view on Saturday. Over 500 marine species are on display in an underwater tank with 24 chambers in JP Nagar, 8th Phase.

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

At 23.8° C, it is sweater weather in Bengaluru

With more rainfall anticipated in August and September, BBMP urges citizens to prepare for rainwater harvesting

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Bengaluru, often referred to as the 'air-conditioned' city due to its pleasant climate, experienced its coldest day on Friday with a daytime temperature of just 23.8 degrees Celsius. This is a significant departure from the driest April record, when the city recorded 37.6 degrees Celsius on April 24, the second-highest temperature ever recorded in the city.

Projecting the weather, Dr Rajavel Manickam from the India Meteorological Department said, "For the city, the weather will be generally cloudy with light to moderate rain very likely. Sustained wind speeds are expected to reach 30–40 kilometres per hour, with maximum and minimum temperatures likely around 27°C and 21°C, respectively."

Explaining the reasons for the weather change, Dr Manickam said that the depression over the northwest and adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal, off the coasts of Odisha and north Andhra Pradesh, moved nearly west-northwestwards at a speed of three km per hour over the past six hours. "As of 5:30 am on July 20, it was centred over the Odisha coast near Chilika Lake at latitude 19.6°N and longitude 85.4°E, approximately 40 km south-southwest of Puri and 70 km east-northeast of Gopalpur. The depression is expected to continue moving west-northwestwards across Odisha and Chhattisgarh, gradually weakening over the next 24 hours," he said. He further added that the shear zone, roughly along 20 degrees north between 3.1 and 5.8 km above mean sea level, persists and tilts southward with height. The offshore trough at mean sea level along the South Gujarat-north Kerala coasts also persists. Additionally, strong wind convergence is noted along coastal Karnataka and adjacent Western Ghats districts.

Rainwater harvesting in Bengaluru

Although Bengaluru is not receiving significant rainfall during the current monsoon surge, the city is anticipated to experience more rainfall during August and September. Consequently, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has taken action and is urging residents to prepare for rainwater harvesting (RWH). Presently, 1.93 lakh households have installed RWH systems. According to Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) regulations, houses built on 60×40 plots are required to install RWH mandatorily. BWSSB officials are also conducting household visits to ensure compliance with RWH requirements.

A BBMP official said that Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath has instructed that RWH systems be implemented in all new and existing buildings, including hospitals, schools, and other buildings. The harvested rainwater can be used for various purposes, such as flushing toilets and other non-potable uses. "BBMP has taken up several new building projects, including the construction of hospitals, schools, and other buildings. Along with this, renovation and repair work on existing buildings is also being carried out. Henceforth, RWH systems shall be implemented in all new buildings, as well as in existing buildings that are being renovated or repaired. This includes the development of playgrounds and gardens. If RWH is not possible, a rainwater drainage system shall be installed in the building premises to prevent rainwater from flowing out," the official said.

Bengaluru experienced its coldest day on Friday

> **"If RWH is not possible, a rainwater drainage system shall be installed in building premises to prevent rainwater from flowing out** – BBMP official

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KSRTC, BMTC finally plan to get back to pre-covid fleet strength

Transport Ministry also plans on adding new buses and hiring more staff to ensure more footfall

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The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) and Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) are planning to restart services which were stalled during Covid. During the pandemic, 3,800 government bus routes were suspended statewide, stranding many passengers. The Transport Department is considering reinstating these routes. With decreased passenger demand during the pandemic, the routes were suspended, but as the situation improves, plans are underway to restart them. "To address the shortage of buses and staff, the government is purchasing new buses and recruiting additional personnel. Over 10,000 additional trips will be operated to restore the suspended services", said Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy.

"The government has also approved the recruitment of 250 technical staff to mitigate the staffing shortfall. In the current financial year, KSRTC plans to hire 2,000 drivers cum conductors and 300 technical staff. There are also plans to hire drivers under outsourcing," Reddy added. In the past year, 2,236 new buses have been added to the KSRTC fleet, and 970 old buses have been refurbished. "We assure the public that the department is committed to resolving these issues and enhancing services for passengers", Reddy said.

BMTC used to operate 6,185 buses before March 2020. However, even after the ridership bounced back post Covid lockdown, BMTC is operating 5,587 buses daily reflecting that the current buses operationalised are 598 fewer than during the Covid times. Similarly, KSRTC used to operate 8,136 buses before Covid, but now it is operating only 7,426 buses, which is 562 less than the pre-Covid era.

During the pandemic, 3,800 government bus routes were suspended statewide, leaving passengers stranded. Along with these buses, there are plans to add more services and staff

With plans on increasing the fleet in the coming months Reddy stated, "During the current financial year, we plan to procure 100 feeder buses, 840 BS 6 diesel buses, 20 midi buses, five double-decker air conditioned buses (NCAP), five double-decker buses (DULT), 921 electric buses under Gross Carriage Contract. Under the GCC (Gross Cost Contract) model, buses are acquired from private or government agencies, and the drivers are supplied by the bus providers. BMTC/KSRTC operates the buses with conductors and compensates the bus owner based on the per-kilometer usage. Besides this, the government, under a special package, has provided Rs 150 crore grant to procure 320 AC electric buses, and administrative approval has also been accorded. In the first tranche, Rs 95.35 crore has been released, and the tender process is going on."

> **"In the current financial year, KSRTC plans to hire 2,000 drivers cum conductors, 300 technical staff, and plans to outsource drivers** – Transport Minister

He further added that during the financial year 2023-24, BMTC plans to recruit 2,500 conductors. Reddy highlighted, "Administrative approval has been given to procure 250 new buses, and for this, the first tranche of Rs 62.35 crore has been released, and the procurement process is going on." The new buses include 25 ordinary (Karnataka Sarige) buses, and around 100 ordinary buses, for which orders have been released, and 90 have been supplied. Approximately 40 non-AC sleeper buses (Pallaki) have been procured along with four AC and four non-AC sleeper buses. KSRTC is also planning to expand its electric vehicles fleet by procuring 300 buses under GCC.

BMTC operates 6,383 buses and carries approximately 5.02 million passengers daily, generating a revenue of INR 5.76 crore per day (BMTC 2017). With 176 stations, and 8642 buses, KSRTC generates a daily income of INR 1350 lakh on an average.

Post the increase in prices of petrol and diesal in Karnataka in June 2024, Reddy hinted that if there is a proposal to increase fares, it will be reviewed in public friendly manner.

Schools claim BBMP cannot interfere with such payments

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been paying 25% property tax and then claiming it. However, educational institutions are not being given a chance to do so this time, and we protest against it. We have already brought this to the Chief Minister's attention and received instructions through him, yet the BBMP is still forcing us to pay taxes. We may have to knock on the court's doors again."

However, a BBMP official countered that many schools have not paid their property taxes, causing a loss to the exchequer.

The issue dates back to 2019, when the BBMP budget proposed an amendment to Section 110 of the Karnataka Municipal Corporations Act, 1976, allowing the levy of property tax on educational institutions, excluding government-aided ones. BBMP officials argued that this measure was necessary to generate revenue, as certain educational institutions were profiting but not contributing financially to the corporation.

Challenging this proposal, the Management Association of Schools of Karnataka and other petitioners filed a case in the High Court. They argued that Section 110 (1)(b) of the Karnataka Municipal Corporations Act exempts premises used exclusively for educational purposes by recognised institutions from property tax. In contrast, Section 152 of the new BBMP (Amendment) Act seeks to restrict this exemption to government educational institutions, thus violating Article 14 of the Constitution, which guarantees equality before the law.

Following arguments from both parties, the High Court granted a conditional interim stay in 2022 against several notices issued by the BBMP to private educational institutions demanding property tax payments. Schools claim that despite this, the BBMP is now pushing for tax collection, leading to ongoing disputes and allegations of contempt of court by educational institutions.

Reacting to this, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath on Saturday clarified that private educational institutions are not exempt from paying property tax for the fiscal year 2021-22, as per the BBMP Act. "All educational institutions must pay their property tax in full, except for those that have been granted exemption by court orders. To assist educational institutions, the BBMP has introduced an OTS, which offers a 25% discount on outstanding property tax payments. This scheme is available to government-recognized institutions that are utilising their properties for educational purposes. Payments can be made either online or offline, with the option of using demand drafts or bank checks for institutions unable to make online payments."

> **"All educational institutions must pay their property tax in full, except for those that have been granted exemption by court orders**
> – BBMP Commissioner

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Mosquito breeding spot

Chandra Layout

Used tender coconut shells have been discarded in Chandra Layout, right next to a preschool. Despite over 100 complaints, the area remains uncleared which is attracting flies, mosquitoes, and rodents.

Deathly potholes

TC Palya

TC Palya area in Kithigannur has been plagued by potholes for many years, and there has been no visible effort from the local authorities to address the issue, either before or after elections.

Splintered footpath

Campbell Road

The footpath slabs along Campbell-Cox Town, Charles Campbell Road connecting to Ramakrishnappa Road were removed nearly 8 months ago, but there have been no repairs or any response from BBMP despite attempts to contact them.

MLA's PIL seeking funds rejected

Flag such issues before the House or govt, says HC

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The Karnataka High Court on Friday rejected a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by S Muniraju, a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA from Dasarahalli. The PIL sought to compel the state government to allocate Rs 78 crore for development projects in his constituency.

The petitioner's counsel contended that six representations had been submitted this year, requesting the release of funds and emphasising the deteriorating condition of roads and buildings in Dasarahalli. The counsel argued that the potholes on the roads were so severe that travelling had become hazardous, particularly for two-wheeler riders.

After reviewing the records, the PIL was dismissed by a division bench of Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice KV Aravind, and the court determined that the grievance presented was unsuitable for consideration through a PIL. It clarified that the sanctioning, modification, cancellation, deduction, or enhancement of grants for constituent assemblies and the welfare of assembly residents fall entirely within the purview of the elected government. "The petitioner herein is an elected representative; he is an MLA. It is always open for the petitioner to flag such issues before the House or before the government and its competent authorities. Filing a writ petition in the nature of a PIL and seeking relief on such scores would not be said to be justified; no such PIL can be entertained," the bench stated.

Notices sent to KPTCL, Escoms

The division bench, with the same judges, has also issued notices to Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd (KPTLC) and various electricity supply companies (Escoms) in response to a suo motu PIL petition on June 14. The petition was based on newspaper reports about the unnatural death of Dasara elephant Ashwathama, a 38-year-old elephant that died at its camp in Nagarahole Tiger Reserve on June 11.

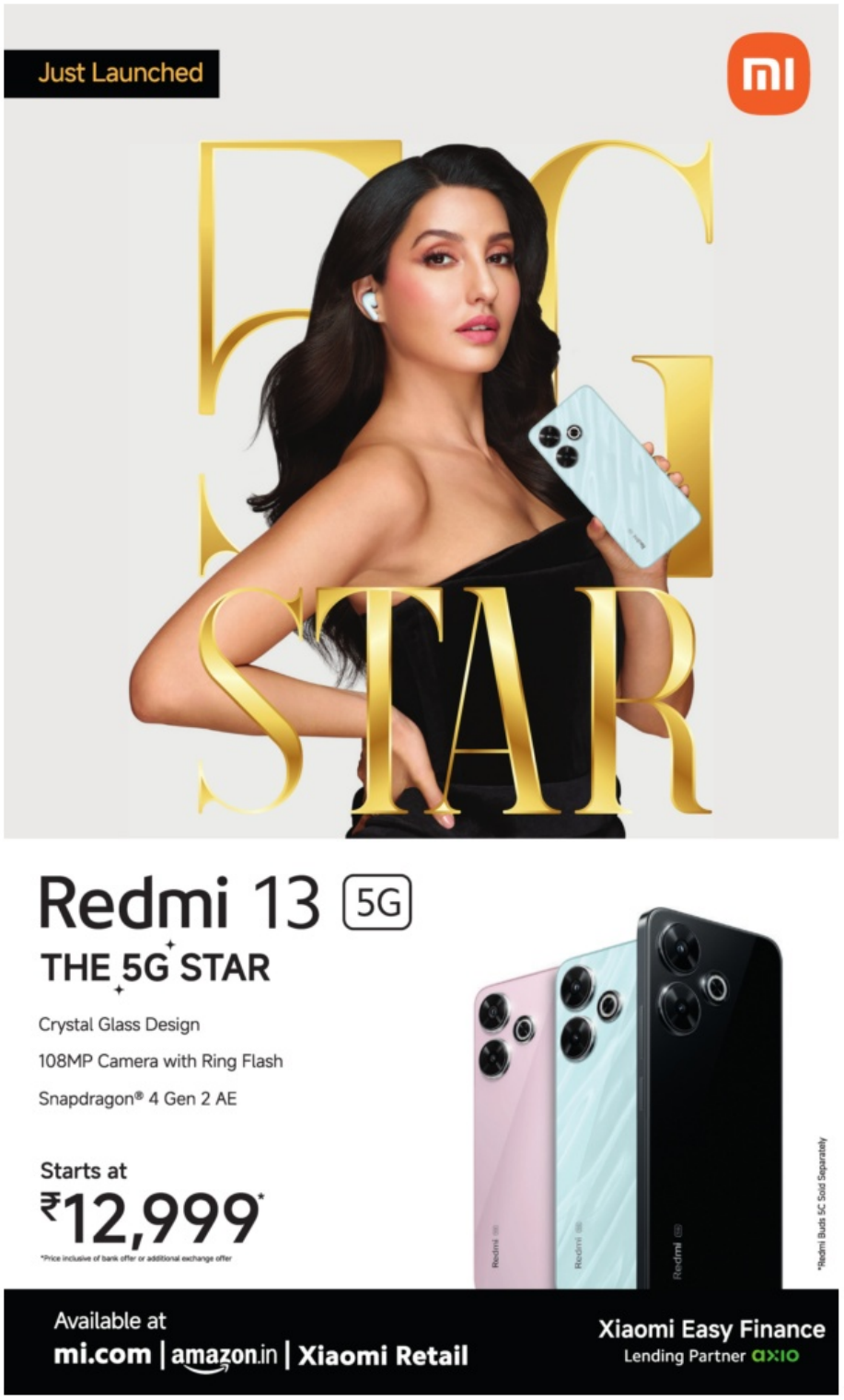
The state forest department informed the court about the measures in place to protect elephants, such as using radio collars to track elephants, erecting barricades using old railway tracks, installing tentacle fencing, and digging elephant-proof trenches. It highlighted the issues of sagging high-tension electric lines passing through forest areas due to non-maintenance and illegal electrical fencing by landowners in elephant corridors. Despite several communications from the department, the KPTLC and Escoms have not responded to these concerns or taken necessary safety measures.

According to the post-mortem report submitted by a team of veterinarians, Ashwathama died due to liver and pancreas-related ailments, not electrocution as initially suspected. However, Senior Advocate and Amicus Curiae Puthige R Ramesh pointed out that the report mentioned the presence of solar tentacles on the elephant's body, among other observations.

Child porn ruling revisited

The HC has retracted its July 10 order that had previously ruled that an individual viewing child pornography online could not be prosecuted under Section 67B of the Information Technology Act. Initially, the court had dismissed charges against Inayathulla N, arguing that merely accessing pornographic content did not constitute 'publishing or transmitting material,' a requirement under Section 67B. However, upon a recall application filed by the state government, the court's single judge bench, led by Justice M Nagaprasanna, on Friday acknowledged an oversight regarding Section 67B(b) of the Act, which also stipulates creating, collecting, seeking, browsing, downloading, advertising, promoting, exchanging, or distributing material that depicts children in an obscene or sexually explicit manner.

PAGE 13 WOMEN'S STORIES: Kalki says she has not got biopic script yet as history remembers men more



Darshan must take food plea to magistrate

The HC has directed Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa, an accused in the Renukaswamy murder case, to move the magistrate court with the plea for home food, bed, and clothes while in prison. The court directed Darshan's counsel to submit the application to the magistrate by Saturday, who is to make a decision by July 26.

Justice SR Krishna Kumar gave the direction on Friday and postponed the hearing to July 29. Previously, the prosecution had objected, arguing that Darshan should first appeal to the Inspector General of Prisons for home food and, if denied, only then approach the magistrate. They also contested this request, citing prison regulations for murder case suspects and raising concerns about the implications of allowing home food. –PTI

THE SUNDAY READ

Tron 1982: Bengaluru's Rising Synthwave Stars

PIC COURTESY: CHANDAN MOULI

(From L-R)- Premik Jolly, Rachna Ramdin, and Venky Nayak

In our quest to uncover the next big musical act, we stumbled upon Bengaluru's own Synthwave sensation. Tron 1982 is poised to transport listeners on an auditory time capsule

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For many 90s kids, one cherished memory was tuning into the action-packed series Street Hawk on Saturday nights. Alongside the thrill of the bike's hyper-thrust speeds, the standout feature was the iconic title track by Tangerine Dream. The electronic melody was a small glimpse into the future. Today, Synthwave, a genre also known as Retrowave or Futuresynth, is dominating social media, appealing to audiences of all ages by blending nostalgic sounds with modern vibes. It's the perfect backdrop for working, cooking, or even the post cooking-cleaning.

Thanks to the Bengaluru-based band Tron 1982, we can enjoy locally brewed Synthwave and experience their live performances. The band, consisting of Premik Jolly, Rachna Ramdin, and Venky Nayak, was formed in 2018 but only started performing live about a year ago. Their passion for the 80s, inspired by family members who listened to Synthwave, drove them to recreate those sounds. Jolly handles the composing and guitar duties, while Ramdin and Nayak enchant with their mesmerising vocals and song writing. Each member has a rich musical background, from Jolly's involvement in metal acts like Threinody and his solo project Prematron, to Ramdin's decade-long music career and founding the Afro Pop band Zhané, to Nayak's almost two-decade tenure founding the funk rock band Illuminati, as well as leading Bajaow and Guys and a Whale.

Tron 1982, synthesises their musical roots in 1980s pop and rock with a contemporary edge. Influenced by icons like Tears for Fears and Madonna, they infuse their tracks with heavy rolling bass lines, catchy melodies, and detuned pads characteristic of classic Synthwave. Modern acts such as Timecop 1983 and The Midnight also shape their sound, blending nostalgia with futuristic sonic landscapes. Utilising a blend of analog and digital synths alongside advanced production techniques, Tron 1982 crafts a unique auditory experience that bridges the gap between retro charm and modern innovation in the Synthwave genre.

Tron 1982 dropped their latest single The Fall a few days ago and are working on their debut album, set to release in September. We caught up with the band for a brief chat, delving into their creative minds.

If Tron 1982 could perform in any era, past or future, which year would you choose and why? Would you bring any futuristic gadgets with you?
Rachna: I would love to travel back to the 70s and perform at Studio 54. I'm not much into gadgets, but maybe an iPhone to capture the moment forever.

What's the most nostalgic thing each of you owns that has inspired your music?
Rachna: I'm proud to be from the generation that listened to music on cassettes, CDs, and vinyl. I still have my Walkman. It has a direct connection to the music we make as Tron 1982, like coming full circle.
Premik: My memory of my dad and uncle taking me to buy cassettes every Sunday. Also, my Yamaha DX7 synth from 1984.
Venky: Watching Back to the Future and my longing to own a DeLorean.

If Premik, Rachna, and Venky swapped roles for a day, what would the band sound like? Any chance of a surprise performance with this setup?
Venky: Bhojpuri-Psy.
Rachna: If Venky is doing Bhojpuri Psy, I will wear a lehenga and dance. We'll also change the band name to Babua 1982.
Premik: I don't think much would change, but we do plan to swap instruments on stage in the future.

The band, consisting of Premik, Rachna, and Venky was formed in 2018 but only started performing live about a year ago

Synthwave is known for its retro-futuristic aesthetic. What's the most outrageous outfit each of you would wear on stage if there were no fashion limits?
Rachna: A cone bra bodysuit (à la Madonna), a bright pink wig, and neon thigh-high boots.
Premik: Neon shorts, neon tee, LED glasses, and a fluorescent guitar.
Venky: Skin, leather, and chains (borderline BDSM).

If Tron 1982 had to create a Synthwave remix of a classic nursery rhyme, which one would it be and how would it sound?
Rachna: Frère Jacques.
Premik: Hot Cross Buns.

Do you have any hidden talents or secret hobbies that your fans would be surprised to know about? How do these influence your music?
Rachna: I am classically trained as a dancer for 16 years and am also a very good cook!
Premik: I love astrophotography and astronomy. I can also tell if someone secretly enjoys our music.

Each of you must pick one song (not your own) that perfectly embodies the spirit of Tron 1982. What are your choices?
Rachna: Out of Time by Kalax.
Premik: Running in the Night by FM-84.
Venky: Everybody Wants to Rule the World by Tears for Fears.

With a blend of nostalgia and innovation, they promise to captivate audiences with their electrifying sound and vibrant stage presence. As they continue to evolve and expand their sonic horizons, Tron 1982 invites listeners on an exhilarating journey through retro-futuristic realms, ensuring a musical experience that resonates long after the last note fades.

"Synthwave, a genre also known as Retrowave or Futuresynth, is dominating social media, appealing to audiences of all ages by blending nostalgic sounds with modern vibes.

6-day wonder: Reservoirs are brimming again

Cauvery catchment reservoirs fill up in less than a week; KRS is expected to reach its full capacity soon

Around 17,000 cusecs of water being released from KRS dam to Cauvery river

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It only took six days to turn the tide on our water woes. Let's rewind to last Sunday (July 14), when the state government held an all-party meeting to discuss the water crisis in the state. The monsoon had not yet picked up, and most reservoirs were empty, making it difficult to supply the required water to downstream Tamil Nadu. However, within just six days, the situation took a dramatic turn, with the reservoirs in the Cauvery catchment areas nearly filling up.

On July 14, the deficit of Cauvery reservoirs was 28 per cent (17% in Harangi, 45% in Hemavathi, and 46% in KRS). The Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) reservoir is expected to reach its full capacity soon, with inflows predicted to rise to an impressive one lakh cusecs.

The inflows to KRS increased from 2,898 cusecs on Sunday to over 19,202 cusecs by Monday evening. The reservoir, which had not reached its full capacity in the past two years due to drought conditions, has experienced substantial inflows resulting from heavy rainfall in the catchment areas of Kodagu and Wayanad. The water level has risen by 13 feet in just four days, filling the reservoir to 75 per cent of its capacity. The authorities are optimistic that it will soon reach its maximum capacity of 124.8 feet, providing relief to the farmers in the region.

The upstream Harangi and Hemavati reservoirs in Kodagu and Hassan districts have already reached their full capacity, with inflows exceeding 30,000 cusecs and 40,000 cusecs, respectively. The excess water from these reservoirs is now flowing into the KRS reservoir, which is currently receiving an inflow of over 46,000 cusecs from the Cauvery and Lakshmana Tirtha rivers. K Raghuram, Superintending Engineer of Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Limited (CNNL), Mandya Circle, has advised people living in low-lying areas along the Cauvery River to move their belongings and livestock to safer locations to protect them from potential flooding.

The Tungabhadra River is also in spate, filling up the reservoirs. The Tungabhadra reservoir near Hospet is storing 65 TMC of water, with the water level reaching 1,621.32 feet of its maximum capacity of 1,633 feet. The inflow into the reservoir is 1,07,198 cusecs, and the storage capacity is 105.788 TMC. The TB Board has issued a warning to people in the river basin, as the water level in the river may rise suddenly. Heavy rain in the Tungabhadra catchment area, Shivamogga, and Chikkamagaluru has led to a massive influx of 10 TMC of water into the Tungabhadra reservoir in just one day.

KRS reservoir that had not reached its full capacity in past 2 years due to drought has experienced substantial inflows due to heavy rain in catchment areas of Kodagu, Wayanad

Good news for B'luru

The brimming of Cauvery catchment reservoirs has brought relief to Bengaluru, which is completely dependent on Cauvery water for its daily needs, and also eases the inter-state dispute with TN. Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar has stated that the state will follow the Cauvery Water Management Authority's directives for releasing water to TN once the KRS reservoir is full, which is expected to happen in the next two to three days. The state is taking the necessary measures to fill the lakes and canals, and farmers are advised to wait a few days before planting crops.

Waterfall advisory

With heavy rainfall, many waterfalls have sprung back to life. However, tourists have been observed engaging in risky behaviours, such as taking selfies and swimming, disregarding warnings from officials. The Kodagu district administration has imposed restrictions on visiting waterfalls. Ramarajan K, Police Superintendent, Kodagu District, has stated that legal action will be taken against anyone who violates these restrictions. The respective police stations have been informed about this, and appropriate action will be taken against both tourists and members of the public who disregard these rules.

IN BRIEF

Director dies by suicide

Vinod Dhondale, director of the popular serial 'Karimani,' has reportedly died by suicide. Reports indicate that he hanged himself at his residence in Nagarabhavi in the city. His mortal remains have been sent to Victoria Hospital in the city for a post-mortem examination. Vinod Dhondale was well-known for directing shows like 'Shantam Paapam,' 'Maunaraga,' and the ongoing daily soap 'Karimani.' His unexpected death has left a void in the Kannada entertainment industry, with colleagues and fans expressing their shock and sorrow.

–ETimes

Cess on movie tickets, OTT fees

The Karnataka state government has proposed a new cess ranging from one to two per cent, on cinema tickets and Over-the-Top (OTT) subscription fees to support film and cultural workers.

This fee will fund social security benefits such as ESI and PF for cine artists and cultural performers under the Labour Ministry's Karnataka Cine and Cultural Activists (Welfare) Bill of 2024.

The Karnataka Cine and Cultural Workers (Welfare) Bill, 2024, was tabled in the Assembly on Friday. The Cess ranges from 1 per cent to 2 per cent, the exact rate of which will be decided by the government later.

Labour Department Secretary Mohammad Mohsin said he plans to extend the cess to theatrical plays performed in the state. The board will use the proceeds from the cess to support social security schemes for film workers.

The bill outlines the creation of a seven-member welfare board for cine workers and cultural activists, tasked with managing funds from the cess to support social security schemes.

The Karnataka Film Workers Artists and Technicians Union estimates that around 2,355 workers, including artists and technicians, are working in the industry. However, many small-time artists and technicians are not registered with any organisation in the state.

–ANI

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

CAMOUFLAGE EXPERT

This praying mantis is effectively camouflaged such that it can escape a predator and also strike a prey stealthily and fast

The picture was clicked by BM reader **Shreya Oruganti**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

DID YOU KNOW?

Science Day in Switzerland is dedicated to Dr APJ Abdul Kalam

May 26, 2006, Dr Kalam's visit to Switzerland, is celebrated as Science Day nationwide in Switzerland. The Missile Man and the late President APJ Abdul Kalam is honored on the Swiss government's Science Day for his extensive contributions to science and technology. Many scientists in India and Switzerland find inspiration in this, as Dr Kalam was an avid scientist and was regarded as the founder of the Indian Missile Programme. After more than thirty years, Kalam was the first Indian head of state to visit Switzerland. Kalam is well-known for having played a significant role in the development of the Indian Missile Mission, which included "Agni." Additionally, he oversaw the testing of as the Chief Project Coordinator for the nuclear weapon — 'Pokhran-II'.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

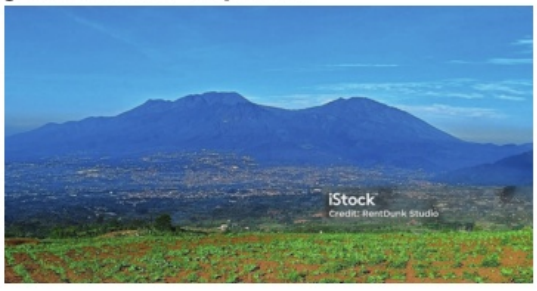
9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

Any hidden gems or lesser-known spots in Bengaluru that you love to explore?



Shantaraju N, BM Reader
I love visiting Nandi Hills as it offers breathtaking views of the surrounding landscape. The hills are home to a variety of attractions including Bhoga Nandeeshwara Temple, Tipu Sultan's Fort, Yoga Nandeeshwara Temple, & others.

Sumanth S, BM Reader
Mariapura Thattaguppe is known for its rich cultural heritage and community spirit in Bengaluru. The annual "Mahime" event, a full-night drama known as the "Light and Sound Play," is a major attraction that draws a lot of people.

Mani, BM Reader
Ragihalli, located near Jigani is a hidden gem waiting to be discovered. It's a beautiful place, surrounded by lush forests and serene ponds. It's also home to a quaint village, offering a glimpse into the peaceful rural life.

Dhanpal, BM Reader
Malgudi Connection is a restaurant that is inspired by the famous TV series "Malgudi Days". It's located in Jayanagar. Ragigudda temple is located on a hillock. There are smaller temples at the base of the hillock.

Raghu Kumar, BM Reader
Kaikondrahalli Lake which was originally a dump-yard, was transformed into a bio-diverse ecosystem by the administrative body. Home to a variety of reptiles, amphibians, and birds, the lake even hosts a small island.

Dharshan, BM Reader
Manchanabele Dam is built on the tranquil Arkavati River and is a serene spot away from the city. The dam is surrounded by lush green trees and small hills, offering mesmerizing panoramic views.

SPEAK TO US

Which local market or shopping district do you find most vibrant and interesting?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at WhatsApp us on 9591233247 or mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

City's ultramarathoner to run at international championship

Ashwini Ganapathi is only female qualified to run 80 km in Asia Pacific Trail championship in S Korea

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Ashwini Ganapathi Bhat, an ultra-marathoner from Bengaluru, has been selected as a sole representative from Karnataka to participate in the Asia Pacific Trail Championship. The event is set to take place from October 23 to 27 in Ulju, South Korea. The Athletic Federation of India (AFI) established the qualification criteria and utilized the International Trail Running Association (ITRA) scores for the selection process.

The Indian team comprises three men and one woman (Ashwini) in the long trail category, which covers a distance of 80 kilometres. Additionally, five men and one woman will compete in the short trail category, spanning 40 kilometres. The championship in South Korea will be held in a mountainous region, featuring significant ascents and descents.

Ashwini has previously represented India at the 24-hour Asia Oceania Championship in 2022, which took place on a 400-metre track in Bengaluru. In 2022, Bhat not only completed a solo trek to Everest Base Camp but also ran a 60-kilometre route to reach the destination. She secured the 9th position among 15 runners and set the fourth best record for women worldwide in May. Remarkably, she was the only woman participating in the marathon that year.

She set 4th best record for women worldwide on Everest Base Camp trek

She runs 80-100 kilometres each week as a commitment since 2018

After leaving her corporate job, Bhat adopted a rigorous fitness regimen. She runs 80-100 kilometres each week, a commitment she started in 2018 after transitioning to athletic running. Alongside her daily 10-kilometre runs, Bhat also engages in strength training twice a week to build muscle and improve endurance. While she has explored many peaks in the Himalayas, her trek to Everest Base Camp was her first solo expedition outside India.

Weinstein retrial in Nov — A judge has tentatively scheduled Harvey Weinstein's planned retrial on rape and sexual assault charges to begin on November 12

College comedy laced with masala

Director BR Rajasekhar, known for handling the megaphone for Kannada movies Barfi and Parole, has selected a college-oriented story for this movie. Rajasekhar has tried to prove that excellence in academics is dependent on students' dedication and certainly not on where they sit – front or back bench – in the classroom.

The other plus point of the movie is that most of the cast, except Suchendra Prasad, are newcomers and they have acted like experienced actors. They compete among themselves to prove their acting skills. There are several double entendres in the film that can evince a giggle.

BACK BENCHERZ

3.0 RATING ★★★☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** B R Rajasekhar
- **ACTORS** Ranjan Narasimha, Jathin Aryan, Manya Gowda, Shashank Simha, Chaturthi Raj
- **Duration** 125 minutes
- **Certification** A

The movie begins with police bringing four youngsters –Arya, Kush, Naveen and Vikki – to Kalasipalya Police Station. Police Inspector Vasu coerces them confessing to a rape and murder of a woman. They plead not guilty and say that they are college students and have nothing to do with the rape and murder. The police inspector asks them to tell their story. At this juncture, the director introduces a flashback to show us the story of the four youths.

The front benchers Arya, Kush, Naveen, and Vikki are bright students. Four students in the back bench happen to tease a woman lecturer. The college principal chides the back benchers and asks them to swap their seats with the front benchers. Later, Arya, Kush, Naveen, and Vikk become troublemakers in the college. Arya throws a party for his friends while his parents are away. They spend more time boozing and smoking than academics. What happens to them and what makes them land up in the police station is what the Back Bencherz is all about.

The movie would have been good entertainment if the director avoided some dialogues that are not meant for family audiences. Suchendra Prasad plays a retired army officer character.

It is worth watching a watch but only if you are okay with some risque humour.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

The vice on campus

Arun Amukta's second film as a director has come over 10 years after his debut Loosegalu in 2013. He has taken time, but also come up with a good subject aimed at parents, who have no time to spend with their children, and students who flaunt their money power and harass bright students from economically weaker families. The other plus point of the movie is that it features Kannada rapper and playback singer Chandan Shetty who has proved that he has the ability to become an actor too. The movie is an action thriller that highlights how some educational institutions are being misused by children from affluent families and how students are addicted to drugs and mobile phones.

VIDYARTHI VIDYARTHINIYARE

3.0 RATING ★★★☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Arun Amuktha
- **ACTORS** Chandan Shetty, Bhavana Appu, Manasvi Manu, Manoj Vivan, Bhavya, Aravind Rao
- **Duration** 160 minutes
- **Certification** U/A

The movie begins with a school premise where pampered children from creamy layer families can do all sorts of things except study. The movie revolves around four students – an adopted son of an actress, the son of a politician, the daughter of a TV channel editor, and the daughter of a police inspector – who harass Sharada (Sinchana Koteswara), the daughter of an auto rickshaw driver. With no other option, Sharada ends her life by jumping from atop of the school building.

Police Inspector (Prashant Sambargi) closes the case as a suicide despite Sharada's father insisting that it be probed. At this juncture, Ramu (Chandan Shetty) joins as a peon at the school and gets close to the four students by catering to their needs. What happens to the four students and who Ramu is and why he joined as the peon is what Vidyarthi Vidyarthiniyare is all about.

Chandan Shetty, as a stutterer and a game designer, has acted well. Prashant Sambargi, as a police inspector, Sunil Puranik, as a politician, Aravind Rao, as an editor of a TV channel, and Bhavya, as a cinema actress, have provided good support. Amar, Manasvi, Cockroach Sudhi, and Niveditha have acted well.

The disadvantage of the movie is the slow narration in the first half which tests the audiences' patience. It would have been a great relief for the audiences if the run time of the movie was reduced by 10 to 20 minutes.

Having said that, the movie is worth a watch.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

Always in love with life

Bollywood icon and former Miss Universe, Sushmita Sen, is certainly making a comeback despite facing a major health scare earlier this year. In March, Sen encountered a heart attack, but her courage and love for life saw her quickly bounce back to her regular activities. Lately, she was seen in 'Taali,' where she had portrayed the inspiring transgender activist Shreegauri Sawant, the plot shed light on Shreegauri's fight for dignity and identity.

During the promotion of the JioCinema show, Sushmita Sen spoke candidly about her heart attack and the lessons she learned from the experience. "I was always in love with life, and I still am, and always will be. I think that was one of the reasons it was hard to take me like that," she said with a broad smile. Her positive outlook and determination have been crucial in her recovery.

Sushmita Sen further reflected on the impact of the heart attack on her perspective on life and work. "It did make me realise that I have seriously important unfinished businesses. And I have to be more aware of what I have left to do. You don't come back from an episode like that, all hale and hearty. It's been four months since the heart attack and I feel fine."

—ETimes

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Police force gets trained to tackle cases of animal cruelty

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

jurisdictional clarification, breeding rules, transportation rules for animals, illegal pet shops, feeder harassment, etc.

"Many police officials remain unaware of animal welfare rules, such as the Animal Birth Control Rule, 2023, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960, and various IPC sections. Police officials are also not informed about rules regarding feeding of stray dogs and feeder harassment. The idea behind these sessions is to empower Bengaluru police so that animal cruelty cases are dealt with strictly," said Dr. Ravi Kumar, Joint Director of the Animal Husbandry Department, BBMP.

According to Sadhana Hegde, founder of Sahavarthin Animal Welfare Trust, the NGO conducting the awareness sessions, while animal law is a part of India's legislation and thus an existing scope of work for police officials, it has been ignored so far due to a lack of cognizance. Experts say it is important to book individuals involved in acts of animal cruelty and take action against them.

"Violence towards animals is a strong indication that the animal abuser will sooner or later inflict violence on people, including women and children. During these sessions, we also inform them that there is a need for the police to protect animals. Animal-related laws have existed for nearly 64 years, and it is time we recognise them.

Apart from important legislation in our country around animal cruelty and welfare, we are also helping them understand jurisdictional aspects. For instance, while a pet dog bite case will fall under the ambit of the police, a street dog bite case would be BBMP's jurisdiction. Similarly, we are also educating them about nuances around feeders' harassment and cases," said Hegde.

These sessions will be held across all law and order police stations across the city, followed by traffic police stations.

"Police officials so far have been receptive to the information. However, it is equally important to update traffic police personnel about these rules as hit-and-run cases involving animals have increased in the city in the recent past. We need conviction in these cases too," added Hegde.

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Jagannath Tatavarthi S/o Nehru Tatavarthi, R/o A-5506, Pranava BSR Guitaar, Kadabeesanahalli, Bengaluru-560103 have changed my minor sons's name from given name " NAGA VENKATA SATYA SAI NEHRU " and surname " TATAVARTHI " to given name " SAI NEHRU " and surname " TATAVARTHI " and he shall hereafter be known as SAI NEHRU TATAVARTHI for all future purposes.

I, Jagannath Tatavarthi S/o Nehru Tatavarthi, R/o A-5506, Pranava BSR Guitaar, Kadabeesanahalli, Bengaluru-560103 have changed my minor sons's name from given name " BENNI NAGA SAI RAM " and surname " TATAVARTHI " to given name " BENNI " and surname " TATAVARTHI " and he shall hereafter be known as BENNI TATAVARTHI for all future purposes.

I, KRINA KALPESH SHAH D/o, Kalpesh Jayantilal Shah, R/at No.HIG10-43/3, 9th Cross, 4th Main, 2nd Stage, K H B Colony, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560079 have changed my name to KRINA K SHAH, vide affidavit dated: 20.07.2024 sworn before notary Renuka C, Bangalore.

I Monica Elizabeth Dhawan W/O Sagar Dhawan R/O Vasant Vihar, Bengaluru, Karnataka have changed my name from Monica Elizabeth Steiner to Monica Elizabeth Dhawan for all future purposes

I,MUHAMMED Khaleel Ahamed DOB: 27/12/1960 S/o Sabjan Shaib R/o # 19, Khaleel Manzil, Vinayaka Nagara, R R Layout, Chikkabanavara Post, B'lore- 560090 have changed my name to Mohamed Khaleel Ahmed S S/o Sabjan Sab and my correct DOB is 27/12/1966

I, Prathima Ramasawamy Reddy W/o Satish Krishna Reddy R/o No 385,Hosur Main Rd,Chandapur Circle, Bengaluru Rural 560099 have changed my name to Prathima for all purposes.

I, Niyamathulla R/O 387, 17th Cross, Rashad Nagar, Bangalore - 560045 have changed my name to Chinbai Hameed Mohammed Niyamathulla for all purposes.

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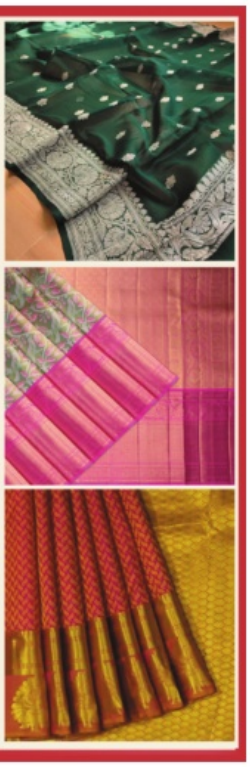
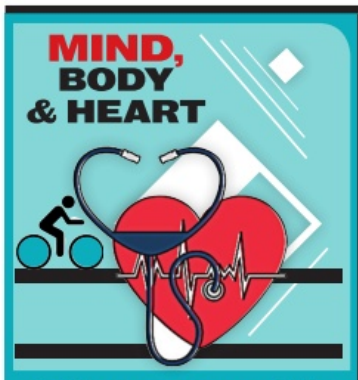


HEALTH TIP: Symptoms of Vitamin B12 deficiency include strange sensations, numbness, or tingling in the hands, legs, or feet



All you need to know about...

Stress during pregnancy

Passed on to foetus
High stress among women in pregnancy may get passed on to the foetus and raise the risk of depression and obesity among children later, finds a study.

Long-term stress
Researchers at Washington University in St. Louis and Dartmouth College conducted a small study of 46 mothers and 40 toddlers and discovered a link between toddler hair cortisol levels -- a long-term stress biomarker -- and maternal prenatal depression.
The study suggests that a child's long-term stress physiology may be influenced by conditions experienced in utero.

Interventions can be planned
Co-author Theresa Gildner highlighted that hair cortisol, which is less invasive than blood tests and more useful than saliva tests, can assess cumulative cortisol exposure over extended periods.
"By understanding the long-term effects of maternal stress on her offspring and when these effects are especially pronounced during pregnancy, we can better determine when interventions to support parents and reduce stress are most needed," Gildner explained.

How stress forms
The body's stress management system, the hypothalamic pituitary adrenal (HPA) axis, releases cortisol in response to stress. Chronic stress can disrupt HPA-axis activity, leading to elevated cortisol levels and serious health problems. During pregnancy, high maternal cortisol can harm the foetus and affect development.

Change in cortisol levels
"Changes in offspring cortisol levels could potentially be beneficial, possibly leading toward accelerated growth and development in response to early adversity" Gildner said, adding that it may also have negative costs for the child. —IANS

ROYAL TASTE

Three Mughlai recipes that can enamour any food-lover

NALLI NIHARI

INGREDIENTS
Nihari Masala:
- 2 tbsp coriander seeds
- 1 tbsp cumin seeds
- 1 tbsp fennel seeds
- 1 tbsp black peppercorns
- 4-5 green cardamom pods
- 2-3 black cardamom pods
- 4-5 cloves
- 1 inch cinnamon stick
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/2 nutmeg
- 1-2 star anise
- 1 tsp turmeric powder
- 1 tsp red chili powder

Nalli Nihari:
- 1 kg lamb shanks (Nalli)
- 4 tbsp ghee or oil
- 2 large onions, sliced
- 2 tbsp ginger-garlic paste
- 4 tbsp Nihari masala (from above)
- 1 cup yogurt, whisked
- Salt to taste
- 4 cups water
- 2 tbsp wheat flour
- Fresh coriander leaves, chopped (for garnish)
- Ginger juliennes (for garnish)
- Lemon wedges (for serving)
- 2-3 green chilies, slit (optional)

METHOD
- Dry roast and grind coriander, cumin, fennel, black peppercorns, green cardamom, black cardamom, cloves, cinnamon, bay leaf, nutmeg, and star anise. Mix with turmeric and red chili powder.
- Heat ghee/oil; brown onions.
- Add ginger-garlic paste; sauté.
- Add lamb shanks; brown.
- Add Nihari masala; cook for 2-3 mins.
- Stir in yogurt; cook for 5 mins.
- Add salt and water; simmer for 2.5-3 hours.
- Mix wheat flour with water; add and cook for 15-20 mins.
- Garnish with coriander and ginger.
- Serve hot with lemon wedges, chilies, and soft Sheermal Breads.

GALOUTI KEBAB

INGREDIENTS
- 500g minced lamb
- 2 tbsp roasted gram flour (besan)
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 2 tbsp ginger-garlic paste
- 2 tbsp yogurt
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp garam masala
- 1/2 tsp black pepper powder
- 1/2 tsp red chili powder
- 1/2 tsp turmeric powder
- 1/2 tsp ground mace
- 1/2 tsp ground nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp ground cloves
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp ground cardamom
- Salt to taste
- 2 tbsp chopped mint leaves
- 2 tbsp chopped coriander leaves
- 2 tbsp ghee

Marinade:
- 1/2 tsp raw papaya paste
- 1 tbsp ginger-garlic paste
- 1/2 tsp red chili powder
- 1/2 tsp garam masala
- Salt to taste

METHOD
- Mix lamb with marinade ingredients. Refrigerate for 2 hours.
- Combine marinated lamb with all other ingredients (except ghee).
- Form into small, flat patties.
- Heat ghee in a pan. Cook kebabs 3-4 minutes per side until golden brown.
- Serve hot accompanied by mint chutney, onions, and lemon wedges.

KESAR RAJBHOG

INGREDIENTS
Rajbhog:
- 1-liter full cream milk
- 1 tbsp lemon juice or vinegar
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 cups water
- 1/2 teaspoon of saffron strands
- soaked in 2 tablespoons of warm milk
- 1/4 tsp cardamom powder
- 1 tbsp chopped pistachios
- 1 tbsp chopped almonds

Stuffing:
- 1 tbsp chopped pistachios
- 1 tbsp chopped almonds
- 1/4 tsp cardamom powder
- 1 tsp sugar

METHOD
- Boil milk, add lemon juice/ vinegar to curdle. Drain and rinse chhena. Hang in muslin cloth for 30 minutes.
- Knead chhena with saffron milk and cardamom. Divide into 8 balls, stuff with pistachios, almonds, cardamom, and sugar mix.
- Boil sugar and water. Add chhena balls, cover, and cook for 15-20 mins until doubled in size.
- Cool slightly, then soak Rajbhog back in syrup for 1-2 hours.
- Garnish with pistachios and almonds. Serve chilled or at room temperature.

Vijay Bhandari, Executive Chef, Courtyard by Marriott Bengaluru Outer Ring Road

Precious neck wear

Known for his audacious style and fearless fashion choices, Ranveer has once again set the bar high with his latest accessory—a stunning Versace Medusa Biggie necklace worth Rs 83,395. This eye-catching piece has not only captured the attention of fashion enthusiasts but also solidified Ranveer's status as a trendsetter in the industry.

The Medusa Biggie necklace, a hallmark of Versace's opulent design, features the iconic Medusa head, symbolizing power and allure. This exquisite piece, draped around Ranveer's neck, was the highlight of his ensemble, adding a touch of grandeur to his already impressive look. The necklace's gleaming finish and intricate detailing perfectly complemented Ranveer's bold fashion statement, making it a focal point of his outfit.

Ranveer's choice of accessories didn't stop at the Medusa necklace. He paired it with a sleek gold watch and a pair of tiny golden earrings, each piece meticulously chosen to enhance the overall bling quotient of his look. The gold watch, a timeless accessory, added a layer of sophistication, while the subtle earrings provided just the right amount of sparkle without overshadowing the statement necklace.

—ETimes

WOMEN'S STORIES

Kalki says she has not got biopic script yet as history remembers men more

It's been quite some time since Kalki Koechlin manifested to be a part of a biopic. Her wish is yet to come true. Last seen in Kho Gaye Hum Kahan, she tells us that while she's been waiting for an opportunity like that and has spoken about it before too, she hasn't received any offers yet. She shares, "I am not close to my dream at all. No script has come my way. I am still waiting for that to happen."

Ask her what sort of biopic she's hoping to get and she shares, "Any biopic of a historical figure is good for me. Just that the story should be worth telling. Something that changed the course of history. That is what is interesting to tell… a story about someone who changed the course of history."

The actress shares that there are fewer biopics on women than men. She elaborates saying, "I want to be a part of a biopic based on a female protagonist. I feel there are fewer biopics on women than men. I guess that's because history remembers its men more as we have lived in a patriarchal world. So, to dig up these stories of women who have done incredible things is quite challenging."

So, if Kalki had to step into the shoes of a protagonist in a female biopic, whose biopic would that be? She signs off saying, "I have said this before too that Sister Nivedita is someone who I would love to portray on screen. She is someone who influenced the education system in India for women." Sister Nivedita is an Irish teacher, author, social activist, school founder and disciple of Swami Vivekananda.

—Onkar Kulkarni, ETimes

Movie with a message

NOT OUT

3.0 RATING ★★★☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Ambarish M
- **ACTORS** Ajay Prithvi, Rachana Inder, Ravi Shankar, Gopala Krishna Deshpande, Cockroach Sudhi, Salman
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 132 minutes

This is a movie that created a lot of buzz in Sandalwood. Director Ambarish M deserves a pat on the back for selecting a story that not only reminds audiences about covid-19 lockdown but also conveys a much-needed message to society, especially for people who prefer money over human values.

The movie begins with a scene of heavy rain lashing Bengaluru. The next scene is Waiter Michael (Govinde Gowda), a prospective director, who is compelled to listen to Ontikoppal Devaraj (Ravi Shankar), a money lender, believed to have died of coronavirus.

Devaraj tells Michael how he got 'killed'. The director introduces a flashback to narrate how Devaraj used to exploit and harass people who took loans from him. Ajay (Prithvi Ajay), an ambulance driver, borrows Rs 10 lakh from Devaraj to buy an ambulance but the vehicle is stolen within three months by Devaraj's supporters.

Ajay and his lover Sridevi (Rachana Inder), a nurse, want to go abroad to work but their documents are with Devaraj. Sridhar (Gopal Krishna Deshpande), the son of a late tahsildar, tries to reclaim the land encroached by Devaraj. Sridhar tries to engage Ajay's friend Snake Seena (Cockroach Sudhi), a rowdy from Srirampura, to kill Devaraj. Initially, Snake Seena refuses but Ajay insists. What happens to Ajay, Snake Seena and Devaraj is what the film is about.

As far as the performance of the actors is concerned, Prithvi Ajay has acted well. Rachana Inder looks beautiful and her dialogue delivery deserves appreciation. Ravi Shankar walks away with all honours. His performance, as a greedy and vicious money lender, in the first half and as a reformed moneylender in the climax, is very good. Cockroach Sudhi is at his best. His dialogue delivery and body language are good. Prashant Siddi and Salman provide good support. Ashwin Hassan and Gopala Krishna Deshpande play different roles. It is worth a watch for family audiences.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

Action galore with smattering of romance

HIRANYA

3.0 RATING ★★★☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Prawin Avyukth
- **ACTORS** Rajavardhan, Rihana, Divya Suresh, Dileep Shetty, Aravind Rao, Huli Karthik
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 142 minutes

The maiden film of Prawin Avyukth as a director is a commercial entertainer told in a unique fashion. The director has ensured the film has all elements such as action, romance, sentiments and an item song to entertain the audiences.

The movie begins with a child getting killed in a road accident while attempting to help a visually-challenged person to cross the road. The next scene is Abhinaya aka Abhi (Rihana) and her lover arriving in a car. Abhi's lover gets killed in a road accident while bringing a tender coconut to her from the other side of the road. Meanwhile, a doctor declares that Abhi is pregnant. She gives birth to a baby boy but she finds that someone is trying to kill her baby. At this juncture, the director introduces Rana (Rajavardhan), a contract killer, who is assigned to kidnap the baby. He succeeds in his mission but some circumstances unfold that prevent him from handing the baby over to his boss.

Abhi and her brother Satyaprakash (Aravind Rao) decide to lodge a police complaint. They meet Dileep Kumar (Dileep Shetty), a police officer. What happens to the baby boy? Who is Dileep Kumar and whether or not Rana restores the baby with Abhinaya is what Hiranya is all about.

Rajavardhan, who debuted as a hero in Sandalwood with Bicchugatti, has tried his best to meet his fans' expectations. His acting skills and gestures in action scenes are good. Dileep Shetty, who plays a double role, has acted well. He will be an asset for Sandalwood if he pursues his acting career with dedication. Former Bigg Boss contestant Divya Suresh, as a call girl, has acted well. Rihana, who debuts as a heroine with this movie, has acted well. Huli Karthik and Aravind Rao have given good support.

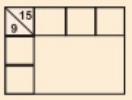
The disadvantage of the movie is too many twists and action scenes.

It is worth a watch if you enjoy action films.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

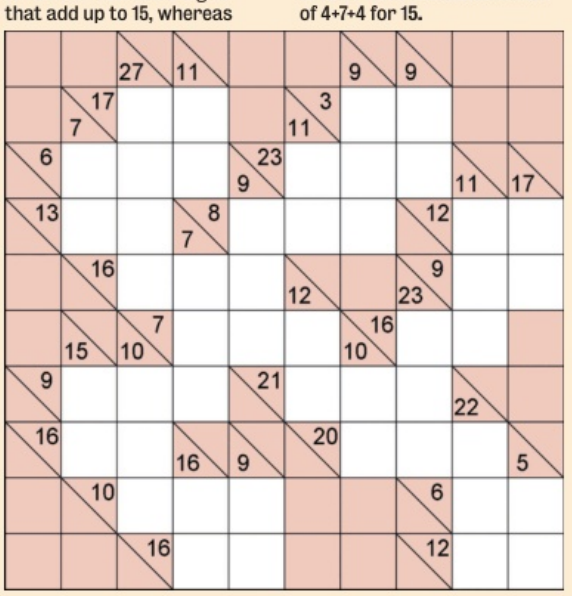
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

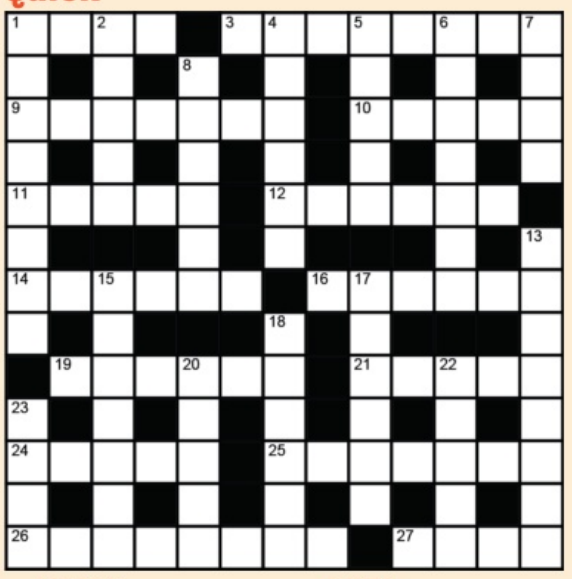


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Trial or examination (4)
3 Adorned with precious stones (8)
9 Srinagar locale (7)
10 Units of electric potential (5)
11 Charged atom (5)
12 Clandestine meetings (6)
14 She-monster (6)
16 It neutralises acid (6)
19 View (6)
21 Old Testament prophet (5)
24 Feudal lord (5)
25 Deletion (7)
26 Passing along (8)
27 Make engravings (4)

DOWN

1 Acknowledge applause or recognition (4,1,3)
2 Japanese dish (5)
4 Errors in printing (6)
5 Diplomatic messenger (5)
6 Citizen army (7)
7 Popular snack Masala ___ (4)
8 Restitution (6)
13 Using the most recent technology (colloquial) (4-4)
15 ___ Market: Market In Shivajinagar (7)
17 Pertaining to spine, as in "___ region"? (6)
18 Scattered about (6)
20 All taken separately (5)
22 Matter (5)
23 Snide remark (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: R EQUALS G

GQBK MFIIMQ FN EQQTQT IX VCUQ C ZCWWK MFOQ; FI FN CMM SFIZFE KXJBNQMO, FE KXJB SCK XO IZFEUFER.

Linemaro

You are like a white dwarf star, extremely hot

Mindchow

If you let go of the past, it no longer has a hold on you

Joke of the day

Dogs will come when you call them. And they'll be happy. Cats will have someone take a message and get back to you

Loop

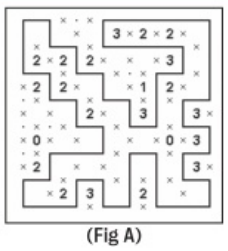
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

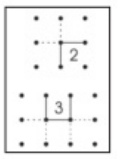
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

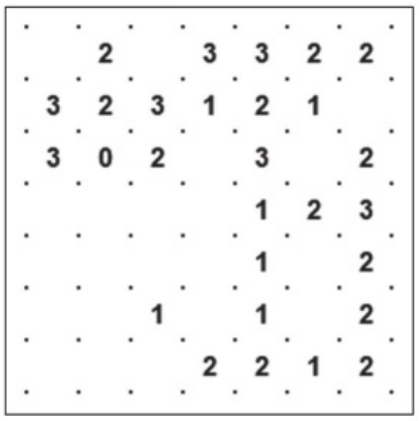
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



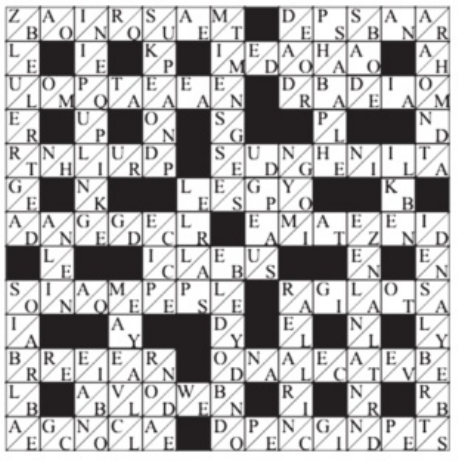
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



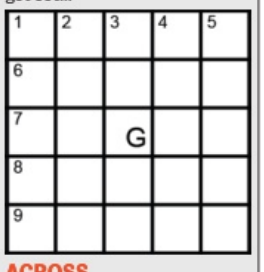
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

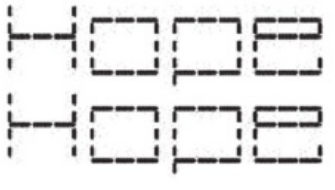
1 Shams; 6 Pipal; 7 Ligan; 8 Carte; 9 Lasso

DOWN

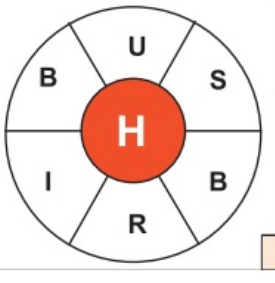
1 Rasps; 2 Amole; 3 A gall; 4 Cap is; 5 Thins

Mensapuzzle

Decipher this dingbat:



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		7	4		6	1		
6	2		1		3		7	9
	9			6			4	
	6	8				7	5	
	3			5			6	
3	4		2		9		1	8
		1	3		8	6		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 14
2 3 3 5

Medium = 3
2 8 8 8

Hard = 6
3 8 8 3

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

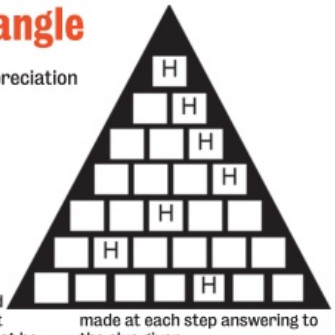
Differences: 1. Man has less hair. 2. Back of chair is different. 3. Wall is not as wide. 4. Chair leg is not showing. 5. Lampshade is smaller. 6. Bracelet is missing.

Riddler

What do these four words have in common?
Worth, Best, Fast & Youth

Alpha triangle

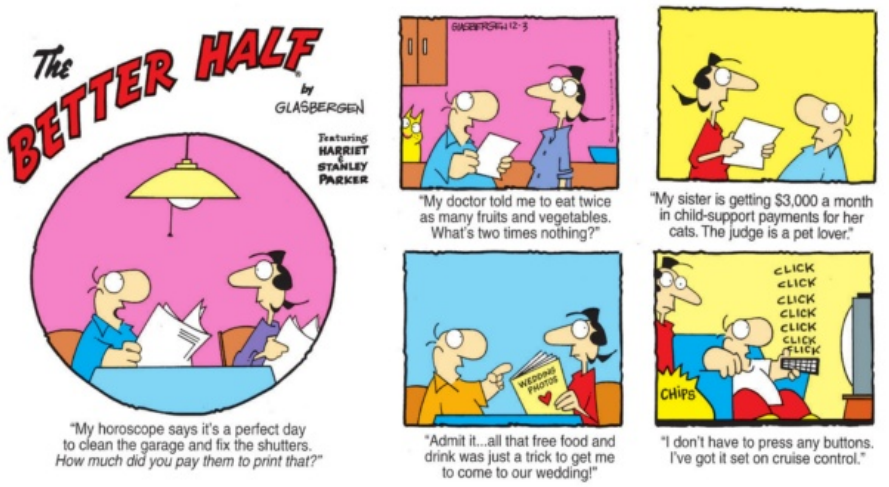
1 Atomic number 1
2 Expression of appreciation
3 Etna residue
4 Redeem a cheque
5 Dull pains
6 Pursued
7 Came uninvited



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
"My horoscope says it's a perfect day to clean the garage and fix the shutters. How much did you pay them to print that?"
"My doctor told me to eat twice as many fruits and vegetables. What's two times nothing?"
"My sister is getting $3,000 a month in child-support payments for her cats. The judge is a pet lover."
WEDDING PHOTOS
"Admit it...all that free food and drink was just a trick to get me to come to our wedding!"
CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK FLICK
CHIPS
"I don't have to press any buttons. I've got it set on cruise control."

DALE! STAND BACK FROM THE MIRROR! WHATEVER SEIZED FLASH COULD RETURN!
I DON'T CARE! WE HAVE TO GO AFTER HIM! WE HAVE TO SAVE HIM!
DALE...
WE HAVE TO SAVE HIM...
FLASH GORDON
FLASH HAS BEEN PULLED THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS!
DALE!
CAN'T BREATHE! BEING...PULLED DOWN...
BUT BY WHAT?!?
NOTHING... TO HOLD ON TO!
WITH A FEROCITY BORNE OF DESPERATION, FLASH LASHES OUT AGAIN AND AGAIN!
KRAC!
UNTIL FINALLY... LUNGS ACHING...
I'M FREE!
THE CREATURE... FOLLOWING ME UP!
CAN'T...HOLD ON... MUCH LONGER!
NEXT: ESCAPE TO OBLIVION!

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, socially, you will re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in the near future. Natives related to glamour, art, and fashion will plan to do something new in terms of their profession. Students will perform better today in terms of study. Lovebirds will enjoy their happy moments.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may be busy on the job front, which may make you tired. You may not be able to spend proper time with your family. You may be able to create some overseas networks as well. You are advised to be careful in terms of investments. Natives in the job may get promoted.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, the situation is under control. Your destiny is likely to be with you in terms of business gains. You may get some rewards for your hard work. It may be a good time to reinitiate your postponed projects. You may expect peaceful religious travel. You may also plan to donate some amount to any religious place or to some charity.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, your moon is not in a good position, and you may have health issues. It is advised not to invest in business, as you may face losses in it. Your gains will also be converted into losses. So you are advised to stop making investments in worthless objects. You should avoid being involved in controversies; otherwise, it will pull you down negatively.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
You are blessed by the moon today; you may expect to hear some good news in terms of your profession. You may make important decisions when making investments in real estate. Domestic life is likely to be full of joy. You are advised to avoid making arguments about worthless topics. Overexcitement may test your patience. Students will be focused on their studies.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may feel dull, but somehow you are likely to get back to your work. You may pay extra attention to your kid's academics. You are likely to be in a winning position against your enemies and opponents. Investors must be careful when making difficult decisions. Job seekers may find a suitable job.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may find negative vibrations around you, which may make you unhappy. You should avoid making investments in worthless assets. You may notice that friends may not be supportive today, so you should not expect more from them for help; otherwise, it may make you more upset. You should make independent decisions today.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel dull, and you may face obstacles in your work. Quick decisions in business are not advisable today. You should keep your patience when making investments. You are likely to spend money on worthless stuff, which may make your family unhappy.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, your hard work may pay off in terms of success. You may plan to go on a short work-related trip. Your subordinates may support you in implementing your business plans. Your opponents may praise your hard work. You may hear good news in terms of siblings.

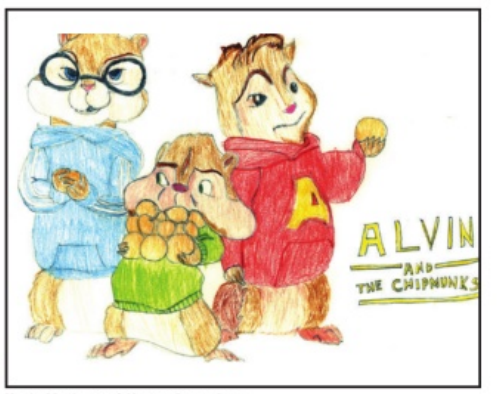
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may be able to control your expenditures on worthless stuff. You may likely plan to invest capital in the business. You may invest your savings in a real estate project, which will boost your financial health in the near future. You may be polite with others. You may be able to focus on domestic affairs, but your spouse will become upset or have some health issues.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may have good vitality and inner strength. You may be able to make good plans and implement them efficiently. But you are advised to carefully read documents before putting in a signature. Due to being overly enthusiastic, you may invest some capital in family businesses. Love birds shall avoid discussing worthless matters.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today is not a good day due to anxiety and restlessness. You may waste your precious time doing worthless tasks. You may plan to visit some religious place to seek peace of mind. You may also get some advice from your elders, which may show you some direction on how to manage the messy situation.

KIDZONE

Prerana G, 6 Years, Carmel School



Kevin Mathews, 8 Years, Bangalore

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
6 * 2 - 3 * 9 * 2 - 1
36 - 54 - 1 = - 19

BULL'S EYE
brush, bush, RUBBISH, rush, shrub

STRIKE OUT

B	A	N	Q	U	E	T	E	S	S	A	R
L	I	P	I	D	A	H	O	H		
U	M	P	T	E	E	N	R	A	D	I	O
R	P	N	G	P	D					
T	H	I	R	D	E	U	G	E	N	I	A
A	N	I	O	N	T	R	Y	S	T	S	
E	H	E	A	O	I	A					
K	A	S	H	M	I	R	V	O	L	T	S
L	U	A	R	N	I	O					
T	E	S	T	B	E	G	E	M	E	D	

QUICK

R	E	L	A	Y	I	N	G	E	T	C	H
U	L	R	W	R	N	C					
L	I	E	G	E	R	A	S	U	R	E	
S	S	V	R	B	O	T					
A	S	P	E	C	T	M	I	C	A	H	
W	U	S	U	E	G						
O	G	R	E	S	S	A	L	K	A	L	I
B	D	A	N	I	O	N	T	R	Y	S	T
E	H	E	A	O	I	A					
K	A	S	H	M	I	R	V	O	L	T	S
A	U	A	R	N	I	O					

STRIKE OUT

E	C	O	L	E	D	E	C	I	D	E	S
L	B	L	O	W	N	I	N	R			
B	R	I	A	R	O	N	L	E	A	V	E
A	Y	E	L	L							
S	I	A	M	E	S	E	R	I	A	T	A
L	C	A	B	S	E	E					
D	A	G	G	E	R	A	M	A	Z	E	D
E	N	E	S	P	Y	K					
T	H	I	R	D	E	U	G	E	N	I	A
R	P	N	G	P	D						
U	M	P	T	E	E	N	R	A	D	I	O
B	A	N	Q	U	E	T	E	S	S	A	R

FAST FIVE

S	M	A	S	H
P	A	L	P	I
A	L	G	I	N
R	E	A	C	T
S	O	L	A	S

QUOTE UNCODE
Very little is needed to make a happy life; it is all within yourself, in your way of thinking.

MENSA PUZZLE
dashed-hopes

RIDDLER
Each of the words is a cardinal direction (NORTH, EAST, SOUTH, WEST) with its first letter swapped out.

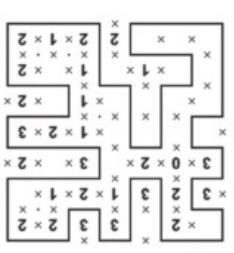
SUDOKU

8	7	9	6	1	5	3	2	4
2	5	1	3	4	8	6	9	7
3	4	6	2	7	9	5	1	8
7	3	4	8	5	2	9	6	1
1	6	8	9	3	4	7	5	2
5	9	2	7	6	1	8	4	3
6	2	5	1	8	3	4	7	9
9	8	7	4	2	6	1	3	5
4	1	3	5	9	7	2	8	6

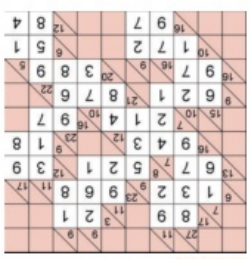
ALPHA TRIANGLE
H, Ah, Ash, Cash, Ashes, Chased, Crashed.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 x 3 + 3 + 5 = 14
Medium
2 x 8 + 8 / 8 = 3
Hard
3 + 3 x 8 / 8 = 6

LOOP



KAKURO



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